

Remarks

Claims 1-55 were originally filed in this application. Claims 1-24 and 33-55 are withdrawn from consideration without prejudice or disclaimer as being directed to non-elected inventions. No new claims are added. No claims are currently canceled.

Claim 25 is currently amended to clarify what Applicants consider as an aspect of the invention without introducing any new matter.

As a result claims 25-32 are pending for examination with claim 25 being the only independent claim.

Election/Restriction Requirement

Originally filed claims 1-55 are restricted to the following inventions: Group I, including claims 1-14 and 53-55, drawn to a method of treating water; Group II, including claims 15-21 and 33-36, drawn to an electrochemical device; Group III, including claims 22-24, drawn to method of treating water; Group IV, including claims 25-32, drawn to a system; Group V, including claims 37-45, drawn to a method for softening water; Group VI, including claims 46-47, drawn to an electrodeionization device; and Group VII, including claims 48-52, drawn to an electrodeionization device.

Applicants elect the invention of Group IV including claims 25-32, without traverse, for examination in this application.

Claims 1-24 and 33-55 are withdrawn from consideration without prejudice or disclaimer as being drawn to non-elected inventions.

Conclusion

In view of the foregoing Amendments and Remarks, this application is in condition for allowance; a notice to this effect is respectfully requested. If the examiner believes, that the application is not in condition for allowance, the examiner is requested to call Applicants' attorney at the telephone number listed below.

If this Response is not considered timely filed and if a request for an extension of time is otherwise absent, Applicants hereby request any necessary extension of time. If

there is a fee occasioned by this Response, including an extension fee, that is not covered by an enclosed check, please charge any deficiency to Deposit Account No. 50/0214.

Respectfully submitted,

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Siemens Ref. No: 2003P86277US

USFilter Ref. No.: USF/ION/125US

LLA Ref. No.: I0168-7079.19

Date: July 26, 2007